

sions and in the army. France is taking similar steps and even Germany is being aroused over the evils of beer-drinking. The canteen has been forced out of the American army. Best of all the evils of intemperance are taught in all the public schools and the next generation will see glorious results for temperance therefrom."

C. F. YODER.

YOUNG PEOPLE AND MISSIONS IN THE BRETHREN CHURCH

A. H. LICHTY

Much has been said of late along the Missionary line. Much more *needs* to be said. Young people, there are *wonderful* opportunities before us in the missionary field,—both home and foreign. But no matter how eager we may be to take up the work, nor what sacrifices we are ready to make, we must first acquaint ourselves with the fields and their needs. if we would do the *most* work and the *best* work for Christ and the Church in Missions. Young people, the future of the Brethren Church rests upon us. No one doubts that the future progress of the church will be in accordance, and in just such measure as we engage in Missionary work,—hence the absolute necessity of our giving the greatest possible attention to the subject of Missions.

How then may we as young people, receive the proper enlightenment along this line? I answer in either of two ways, viz: First and best by attending Ashland College, and secondly by taking up a systematic line of study on this subject in our homes and study the work *prayerfully and systematically*.

By attending Ashland College, you hear the Missionary subject ably discussed every four weeks by such people as Brn. Miller, Furry, Garber, Witter and Gnagey and Sisters Detwiler and Miller, besides others. From their extensive readings, studies and observations these minds can impart intelligence on this subject, the import of which is *excelled* no-where in the brotherhood. Not only is this intelligence imparted, but it is done in a manner that *enthuses* young people and creates a desire in the minds and hearts of many to take up mission work.

Another advantage to be gained by attending the college and by far greater import than the former, is that you will have all the rich advantages offered by the work of the "Students Volunteer Band for Missions," which was organized scarcely ten months ago in our college. In these meetings the best books on Missions are read aloud. Comment by thoroughly capable and reliable parties is made whenever necessary to bring out the author's thought more clearly. We learn of the good resolutions and actions of good men and women who figure prominently in Mission work as well as those who helped to bring this grand work about. Missionary songs are sung. Soul-inspiring prayers are offered, and a general awaking is received along this line by all the participants in these meetings,—and when I say *all*, I do so with pride, because we organized this society last fall with seventeen active members out of an enrollment in the college then of

about sixty students. And instead of finding the subject a dry one as many of us anticipated, we found it an unusually interesting one and as fresh as any subject.

The Chautauqua or Home Reading Circle Course will do much good for those who are not enabled to attend our college. The work is a truly noble work and we are proud that Diplomas of Graduation from this Course grace the walls of the studies of some of the young people in our church, and yet are sorry that we see no more of them than we do. When our young people once become enlightened along this line as they should, there are three particular things they can do for Missions that will work great good for the cause of Christ thru the Brethren Church.

First, they can disseminate Missionary Intelligence. This may be done very effectively and in various ways. These young people can take advantage of the opportunity afforded them every four weeks in the young people's society and deliver a few thoughts that will be right to the point on Missions and Missionaries. These short addresses will be listened to with great interest on the part of many, at least, because the subject being handled properly, will be as a *new* subject to them. Another way that may be used to a good advantage, is by citing parties who desire to read, to the proper Missionary literature. Many minds often hunger for food of just this sort, but few books are to be found in either their own library or those of their friends. Ordinary book stores rarely handle the best Missionary literature, and hence even if our friends desired to purchase they would be handicapped. So we repeat, young people can disseminate Missionary intelligence by loaning their own books and periodicals on Missions and Missionaries and by citing their friends or any others to the proper missionary literature. Then too, they can disseminate the Missionary knowledge and spirit by being an active agent and representative of the college in their locality and sending new students to the college and these in turn will disseminate the Missionary intelligence and send in other new students.

Secondly, they can set worthy examples of more liberal giving than nine-tenths of the membership in the church are accustomed to. I do not mean to say that our older Brethren have not loyally supported the Master's work, but most of them have lived where the pastor dwelled among them. He farmed or engaged actively in some business to partly or wholly support himself and family and consequently asked for little, if any financial support. Sunday Schools are of comparatively recent birth. Missions among our people are almost entirely new, and all of these things have come at once, so to speak, and as a result, new and large demands are made. We can't blame our older brethren for not giving more liberally than they do, because *giving* is *doing* something, and we have become such lovers of home, luxuries and money that we do not feel like

parting with these things very freely. It takes *teaching*, by both *example* as well as *precept* and it takes *time*, as well, to attain to our ideals along this line. But, Young People, the opportunity is *ours* for enlarging the circle of worthy examples in contributing money for the cause of Missions and Missionaries. By so doing we will be enabled to do the blessed work of opening up not only more home missions and supporting worthy people who will have them in charge, but ours shall be the glory of opening the first mission point of the Brethren Church in the foreign field as well. But we cannot think of stopping there. When once *we* contribute money as we should, the Brethren Church will send forth various missionaries to various fields, and who knows or who can tell just how soon this grand work shall have progressed sufficiently, to enable us to have placed the first missionary of the Brethren church in the foreign field?

Better contributing would provide our various Sunday Schools and Young Peoples Societies with libraries containing a goodly portion of literature in the proper form for our Sunday-School Scholars to read and become familiar with and thus plant this Christ-like Missionary spirit early in the hearts of our coming church workers.

Not only may we young people disseminate missionary intelligence and set worthy examples of more liberal giving, but the opportunity is ours to furnish the real missionaries themselves. Even if we had the missionary intelligence well disseminated, and had contributed freely, it would avail little if we had no true hearted, consecrated men and women to stand up and say, "Here am I, dear Lord, send me." *I'll go where you want me to go, and I'll be what you want me to be.* Yes the opportunities are ours. Shall we embrace them and increase our usefulness and our power for doing good?

Blessings come to those churches which send forth their children to the mission field, that do not come to those who do not engage in mission work. The same thing holds true in individual cases. I saw this beautifully illustrated in a home only last summer. I met a fond mother of two charming daughters aged ten and twelve, who told me in the course of a conversation that she was the mother of seven daughters in all. Three of them were then in the foreign field, two more were receiving their training for the foreign field and the two younger daughters at home could scarcely wait until the time came, when they, too, would be old enough to leave their home and enter upon their preparatory work for the foreign field. I said, "I suppose you often become lonesome and heartsick for your daughters and wish them back home again." She replied, "Ah no, good man, I only wish I had seven more to send." I could not help being wonderfully impressed with this lady's work and devotion. Surely, it is blessed to *give*. And now since the church is composed of individuals and these individual experiences are